

CLAIMS:

The invention claimed is:

1. A bedpan apparatus to permit a user to dispose of bodily waste, said bedpan apparatus having a bottom surface, side walls, a back wall, a front wall and a top surface with a leading edge, forming a waste reservoir or pan comprising:

a rectangular sheet of flexible material that is attached on top of said pan; said rectangular sheet has an opening for receiving bodily waste from said user, said opening being collinear with said back wall and side walls but only reaching about half the distance to said front wall; said rectangular sheet overhanging said side walls and said front wall by a sufficient distance to allow said leading edge to deflect easily down to bed level when positioned against the user's buttocks by caretaker; and

said back wall is taller than said front wall and said side walls taper down from said back wall to said front wall causing said rectangular sheet to slope from the back wall to said leading edge.

2. A bedpan apparatus as defined in claim 1 wherein said bedpan apparatus is molded from an engineering thermoplastic that can survive numerous sterilizations.

3. A bedpan apparatus as defined in claim 1 wherein said bedpan apparatus is made from metal.

4. A bedpan apparatus as defined in claim 1 wherein said back wall is approximately 5 inches tall and said front wall is approximately 2 inches tall.

5. A bedpan apparatus as defined in claim 1 wherein all edges that contact said user's skin are appropriately chamfered, radiused or broken to prevent scraping of sensitive skin.

6. A bedpan apparatus as defined in claim 1 wherein said rectangular sheet overhangs beyond said side walls and front wall approximately five inches.

7. A bedpan apparatus as defined in claim 1 wherein said bedpan apparatus has a thumb grip contour in the center of the top of said rear wall and four finger grooves indented into bottom of said rear wall and said bottom surface to allow easy one handed insertion and extraction of said bed pan apparatus and handling during cleanup or disposal.